Both Farties Working Like Beavers to Carry State.

EACH IS CLAIMING VICTORY

Gold Democrats Will Vote the Republican Ticket.

BETTING ABOUT EVEN

BALTIMORE, October 22, 1899. campaign for state offices in Mary their energy and skill to influence voters in every section of the commonwealth. Gov. Lowndes and his colleagues on the republican ticket on the one hand, and Col. John es on the other, are traveling through the several countles addressing the people on the issues. The leaders on both sides express confidence in the outlook, and claims are put forth by the republicans that their ticket is sure to win, while the democratic claims are equally emphatic that nothing remains for their side but to await the counting of the votes to show that they have been restored to the confidence of the majority of voters and to resume control of the various branches of the state administration next year. Very cidedly favorable to the democrats among those who bet, today even money is the rule, with Lowndes slightly in the lead as a favorite among the sporting fraternity.

Gold Democrats for Lowndes.

As indicated in The Star a short time ago, nearly all the most prominent independent and gold standard leaders have come out openly in favor of the republican ticket. This is notably the case among business men in Baitimore, many of whom, although they are strong democrats, are fearful of the effect of the result on next year's national election, should the party which favored free sliver in its last national plat form carry the state.

At firs: a large proportion of these people were ready and anxious to support their party ticket, but when they realized, as at last they have done, that this contest is but preliminary to the national struggle for sound money, which must be fought out next year, they did not hesitate to take sides against their party, and will be found voting with the republicans this year, as they did in 1806. As one of them, a leading democratic banker, said today, "they do not proposed to be deceived into giving aid, however indirectly, to nearly why remains however indirectly, to people who represent financial heresies, and will not aid in add-ing to the impetus already received by Bryanism and the free silver cause in the west, no matter how high the character of the men who may be put forward as candidates, nor how eloquent may be their pleas

their power to encourage their people, and thus put some enthusiasm in their ranks, there is apparent to the close observer an undercurrent of dissatisfaction and uneasiness among their workers, which shows that they are fearful about the result November 7. The old-time enthusiasm which marked former democratic campaigns is absent. The meetings they hold are not largely attended, and those who do attend appear lifeless and indifferent, and generally a great proportion leave before the clesing speeches are made. There are no hurrahs, no whooping up by "the boys," and very little of the noise usual on such occasions, and what there is, is purely per-functory and of the machine-made order.

Republicans Full of Enthusiasm. The republicans, on the contrary, are full of enthusiasm, and their meetings are noted for the vim and vigor displayed by the

been held in the interest of the republican cause, and the halls used were not only erowded to overflowing, but in many instances there were so many people present that addresses were made to those on the outside who were unable to enter. A no-ticeable feature of all these meetings has been the presence of any democrats, who applauded the speeches with as much emphasis as did those who had been republicans all their lives. In fact, the campaign in Baltimore is rapidly assuming the paign in Bailimofe is rapidly assuming the same features it did in 1895, when party lines seemed to be wiped out, and democrats and republicans alike combined to rescue the state from control of the Gorman-Ra-Today the nght is not

to prevent the return of the old oligarchy to power, but to insure a continuance of the work of reform which was begun in 1895, and also to prevent Maryland from casting its electoral vote for Bryan and free silver in 1900. The sound money democrats have per-fected an organization to aid in securing the re-election of Gov. Lowndes and fur-ther the preparations for the campaign of contest is but the preliminary struggle.

Mr. Harry A. Parr, one of the most promi-

nent democratic business men in Balti-more, is president of the association, which position ne held in a similar organization in 1855, when he did so much effective work in aiding to increase the vote for Mc-Cowen of the Baitimore and Onio railway.

Mr. Wm. Cabell Bruce, former president
of the state senate; Mr. Wm. Keyser, Mr.
Charles D. Fisher, Gen. Lawrason Riggs, ex-United States District Attorney Wm etal, social and professional life of the city and state—and all of whom above all are strong democrats of the old-fashioned school. Their organization means business. school. Their organization means business, and its completion has cast a decided gloom over the ranks of those democratic politicians who have been boasting for several weeks that "Smith is sure to win." They know that this public attitude of the sound money democrats means thousands of democratic votes for Gov. Lowndes, and that it proctically insures his resolution by

the republican legislative ticket in the three districts of Baltimore city. Smith's Record Unsatisfactory.

One of the chief factors in bringing about the organization of the sound money democrats was the publication of Col. Smith's record in The Star early in October. That publication was the first information about the stutude of the democratic nominee in regard to the last Cleveland administration, and was republished in all the daily papers of Baltimore. A further inquiry brought about by the letter in The Star disclosed the fact that Col. Smith had not antagonized the Cleveland democrats that he had dodged the vote on the ad money resolutions passed by the esenate in 1898, and the same year had also dedged the vote in favor of the gold standard passed by the State Bankers' Association at their convention held in Ocean City. These facts aroused the Cleveland democrats to such an extent that many of them who had expected to vote for Col. Smith have comply arounced their Smith have openly announced their

A careful review of the situation at the present time leads to the belief that the republican ticket will win by a majority of several thousand. This view is concurred in by many of the best judges of such matters who are cognizant of what is going on in both parties.

The Chinese carte-de-visite is a great curiosity, consisting of a large sheet of bright scarlet paper and bearing the name of the owner in very large letters, the larger the better. The paper is folded ten times and the name is written on the right-hand low-er corner, prefixed thus: "Your unworthy friend, who bows his head and pays his respects." "Your very stupid brother," or something to that effect. In place of "Yours truly," "Your stupid" is written on the Chinese card. The return of these cards to the visitor is considered etiquette. They the visitor is considered etiquette. They are too costly for general distribution. So it is necessary that each card should do duty several times.

Jack Tars.

Ward Room and Gun Room Amenities Officers-Everything Clean.

As in a town, we have here men of all sorts and professions, we find all manner of human interests cropping up here in times of leisure, and yet the whole company have one feeling, one interest in common, their ship, and through her their

First of all, of course, comes the cap tain, who, in spite of the dignity and grandeur of his position, must at times feel very lonely. He lives in awful state, a sentry (of marines) continually guarding his door, and although he does unbend at stated times as far as inviting a few officers to dine with him, or accepting the officers' invitation to dine in the wardroom, this relaxation must not come too often. The ficer, is in a far better position as regards comfort. He comes between the captain and the actual direction of affairs; he has a spacious cabin to himself, but he takes his meals at the wardroom table among all the officers above the rank of sublicu-tenant, and shares their merriment; the only subtle distinction made between him and everybody else at such times being in the little word "Sir," which is dropped adroitly in when he is being addressed. For the rest, naval nous is so keen that amidst the wildest fun when off duty no officer can feel that his dignity is tampered with, and they pass from sociability to consider the such that he wildest from sociability to consider the such that he was from sociability to consider the such that he was from sociability to consider the such that he was from sociability to consider the such that he was from sociability to consider the such that he was from sociability to consider the such that he was such that the such that the such that he was such that the such that he was such that the such that and they pass from sociability to cast-iron discipline and back again with an ease amazing to a landsman.

The wardroom of a battle ship is a pleas-ant place. It is a spacious apartment, tak-ing in the whole width of the ship, handsomely decorated, and lit by electricity. There is usually a piano, a good library, and some handsome plate for the table. It is available not only for meals, but as a drawing room, a common meeting ground for lieutenants, marine officers, surgeons, chaplain and senior engineers, where they chaplain and senior engineers, where they may unbend and exchange views as well as enjoy one another's society free from the grip of the collar. A little lower down in the scale of authority, as well as actualin the scale or authority, as well as actually in the hull of the ship, comes the gunroom, the affix being a survival, and having no actual significance now. In this respect both wardroom and gunroom have the spect both wardroom and gunroom nave the advantage over the captain's cabin, in which there are a couple of quick-firing guns, causing those sacred precincts to be invaded by a small host of men at "general quarters," who manipulate those guns as

The gunroom is the ward room over again, only more so—that is, more wildly again, only more so—that is, more wildly hilarious, more given to outbursts of melody and rough play. Here meet the sub-lieutenants, the assistant engineers and other junior officers, and the midshipmen. With these latter admirals in embryo we find a state of things existing that is of the highest service to them in after life. Taking their meals as gentlemen, with a senior at the head of the table, meeting round that same table at other times for social enjoyment, once they are outside of the gunroom door they have no more privacy than the humblest blue-jacket. They sleep and dress and bathe jacket. They sleep and dress and bathe-live, in fact—coram publico, which is one of the healthiest things, when you come to think of it, for a youngster of any class. Although they are now officers in H. M. navy, they are still school boys, and their education goes steadily on at stated boys. navy, they are sain school boys, and their education goes steadily on at stated hours in a well-appointed school room, keeping m a well-appointed school room, keeping pace with that sterner training they are receiving on deck. The most grizzled old seaman on board must "Sir" them, but there are plenty of correctives all around to binder the around its binder the arou to hinder the growth in them of any false

On the same deck is to be found the common room of the warrant officers, such as bo'sun, carpenter, gunner; those sages who have worked their difficult way up from the bottom of the sailor's ladder through all the grades, and are, with the petty officers, the mainstay of the service. Each of them has a captage of the service. Each of them has a cabin of his own, as is only fitting; but here they meet as do their superiors overhead and air their opinions they mostly talk "shop," for they have only one great object in life, the efficiency of their charge, and it leaves them little room for any other topics. Around this, the after part of the ship, cluster also anthe after part of the ship, cluster also another little body of men and lads, the domestles, as they are termed, who do their duty of attendance upon officers and waiting at table under all circumstances with that neatness and celerity that is inseparable from all work performed in a ship-of-war. Body servants of officers are usually marines, but the domestics are a class apart, strictly non-combatant, yet under navai law and discipline.

Going "forrard," the chief petty officers will be found to make some attempt at shutting themselves apart from the generation al, by arrangements of curtains, etc., all liable and ready to be flung into oblivion at first note of a bugle. For the rest, lives are absolutely public. No one has a corner that he may call his own, un-less perhaps it is his "ditty box," that lit-tle case of needles, thread and et ceteras that he needs so often, and is therefore al-lowed to keep on a shelf near the spot where he eats. Each man's clothes are kent in a hear which her the kept in a bag, which has its allotted place in a rack, far away from the spot where his hammock and bed are spirited off to every morning at 5 o'clock, to lie concealed until the pipe "down hammocks" at night. And yet by the arrangement of "messes" each man has, in common with a few others, a settled spot where they meet at a common table, even though it be not snut in, and is liable to sudden disappearance during an evolution. So that a man's mess during an evolution. So that a man's ness becomes his rallying point; it is there that the young bluejacket or marine learns worldly wisdom and many other things. The practice of keeping all bedding on the move, as it were, having no permanent sleeping places, requires getting used to, but it is a most healthy one, and even if it were not, it is difficult to see how, within the limited space of a warship, any other arrangement would be possible. Order arrangement would be possible. Order among belongings is kept by a carefully graduated system of fines, payable in soap—any article found astray by the everwatchful naval police being in the ever-—any article found astray by the ever-watchful naval police being immediately impounded and held to ransom. And as every man's kit is subject to a periodical overhaul by officers, any deficiency cannot

scape notice. Every man's time is at the disposal of the service whenever it is wanted, but in practice much leisure is allowed for rest, recreation and mental improvement. Physical development is fully looked after by the of the service, but all are encouraged to make the best of themselves, and no efferts on the part of any man to better his position are made in vain. Nowhere, per hans is vice windshader. haps, is vice punished or virtue rewarded with greater promptitude, and since all punishments and rewards are fully pubpunishments and rewards are fully pub-lic, the lessons they convey are never lost. But apart from the service routine, the civil life of this little world is a curious and most interesting study. The industrious man who, having bought a sewing ma-chine, earns substantial addition to his pay by making every item of his less energetic essmates' clothes (except boots) for a conmessmates' clothes (except boots) for a consideration, the far-seeing man who makes his leisure fit him for the time when he shall have left the navy, the active temperance man who seeks to bring one after the other of his shipmates into line with the ever-growing body of teetotalers that are fast altering completely the moral condifast altering completely the moral condition of our sailors, the religious man who gets permission to hold his prayer meeting in some torpedo-flat or casemate surround-ed by weapons—all these go to make up the multifarious life of a big battle ship.

Hit Him Hard. From Tit-Blis.

derly but well-preserved adorer, pale with anger and mortification. "A dozen Cupids, with a hundred arrows each, could never find a vulnerable place in your flinty "Not if they used an old beau to shoot

"You are an iceberg!" exclaimed her el-

coldly replied the beautiful girl.

A Sordid Soul. From the Chicago Tribune.

Bettina-"I needed a little money one day when I was downtown and borrowed \$1 from Irene Foxby. I told her that if I for-got to return it she must ask me for it." Bettina—"Well, it escaped my mind for a few weeks and the mean thing asked me for it."

Something About the Life of John Bull's A True Game Bird That is Found in Many

Variously Known as Ruffed Grouse

From the Chicago Record.

The ruffed grouse, sometimes called partridge, "cock of the woods" or pheasant, have a wide range of habitat in the United States, no less than twenty-six of the states mentioning them in their game laws. They range from Maine on the north to Dakota on the west, south to Virginia, and are in most of the central and northern central states. They are probably the hardiest birds in many respects of the grouse family. I have never heard of one of them being frozen, however severe the winter, and have been out hunting when traces of their scratching would be found which indicated that they were digging down ever a foot in the snow to get at buried rosebuds or the roots of willows. What they live on when the snow is deep is a mystery to those who have traveled in the woods where they are found, but live they do, and apparently thrive. In Illinois the law has been changed, making the open season during the month of September only, and this is going to make these birds

more plentiful if the law is half way ob-The reason for this is that the foliage in September is so thick in the woods (and the ruffed grouse is rarely found in the open) that hunting him will be a very difficult matter. In the places he frequents the trees are usually close enough together to make practically a sheet of leaves during the time he may be shot. And no bird in the time risk barder, to bring degree the the time he may be shot. And no bird in the timber is harder to bring down than this same ruffed grouse. His flight is very swift, strong and hard to stop as he whizzes through the woods. He seems to be able to get past the trees without the stightest difficulty, and, like the woodcock, has the happy faculty of putting a tree trunk between himself and the sportsman when opportunity offers.

Of course they have been relentlessly hunted but so have the prairie chickens. It is not

ed but so have the prairie chickens. It is not because they have been frozen out by the severe winters, for the very Indians themselves have no more endurance and stoicism than the ruffed grouse. The woods are here yet, and to a great extent the chance for getting a living is as good, but many thousands of acres of timber land near the railroads running to the north-west are almost entirely descreted by the west are almost entirely deserted by the birds. It may be that the gradual destruction of the underbrush and the cleaning up of the woods by the habit of making them pasture grounds has made the birds leave. At any rate, they have gone, where twenty years ago they were fund in fairly plant. years ago they were found in fairly plenti-ful numbers. Restocking these woods might be the means of affording occasional shooting, but where the timber has been denuded of the brush the ruffed grouse will not stay in any numbers. They are found in tamarack swamps, around the lakes in the hilly portions of Illinois and in the woods along the streams and rivers of the northern part of the state.

The ruffed grouse is a true game bird, lying well to the dog and giving exciting sport wherever found in numbers large enough to furnish fair shooting. In Michigan, which is a good grouse state, he is often found in the same country with the quail, and the hunters there get them when hunting for the latter bird. In Illinois, on the contrary, the quail have respired dis the contrary, the quail have nearly all disappeared in the grouse country, the cold winters having frozen them out or driven winters having frozen them out or driven them to more temperate portions of the country. In Indiana also the ruffed grouse is found with the "bob white" and, gener-ally speaking, country which is good for quail cannot support the other bird. Like the quail, his flesh is white, inclined to be a trifle dry, and very delicious eating. Like the other grouse they on in flocks although he other grouse, they go in flocks, although in Illinois they have become so scarce that a single old cock or a pair of birds is about all a man will find in walking through the average neck of woods

Their colors are dark brown, blended with gray and with black, and they have a crest on top of the head. The ruffs are a prominent feature of the bird's appearance, and are two in number, one on each side of the neck. They are composed of from twenty to thirty feathers each, and the bird takes its name from them. The table leads and name from them. The tall is long, broad and banded, and when stretched out and dried will make quite a unique fan. The ruffed grouse is about sixteen to eighteen two and a half or three pounds. He is an exceedingly handsome bird, excelling the binnated grouse or prairie chicken vastly in rounded and capable of surprising bursts of speed. There is no lumbering awkwardness when this bird rises, as after the manner of the prairie chicken. He springs from the brush with the speed of a rocket and it takes quick shooting to get him. And "doubles" on ruffed grouse in thick cover are the most difficult things to do in shotgun shooting. They are strong birds and require to be hard hit to be brought down, unless when a stray shot breaks a wing or quire to be hard hit to be brought down, unless when a stray shot breaks a wing or hits them on the head or neck. Like other birds of the grouse family and the quail, the ruffed grouse when struck in the head, if not killed outright, will "tower," as it is called, flying straight up into the air to quite a height. When a hunter sees a grouse "tower," all he has to do is to watch where the bird falls. When he finds the game it will be a case of "dead bird." the game it will be a case of "dead bird."

In the alder bushes and in the foothills of the New Hampshire mountains I have found the birds in flocks of from a dozen to twenty grouse. The natives hunted them there with a cur dog and a shotkun or rifle. The dog ran aboard a correlation of the control of the after the trees, barking at them vigorously after they were treed. The grouse would not fly, but would watch the dog. The hunter would slip along as soon as he heard the dog barking and "pot" the birds as they sat on the limbs. When a shotgun was used the flock would generally fly after one or two shots. But with a small rife a number of birds could be shot from one ock by shooting the under birds first th the scattered ones, and keeping perfectly quiet. It was a murderous way of getting grouse, not much better than snaring them with "twitchups," and gave the birds not the slightest chance for their lives. This habit of the ruffed grouse is well known. The Illinois game law provides that the pinnated and ruffed grouse must be shot turing September, and with the shotgun But that law as to ruffed grouse is a dead letter. In the regions where the birds are now to be had you can find some one in the neighboring towns of the country round about who will get them and not use "the shotgun only." It is a pity, but so it is.

The "drumming" of the ruffed grouse is a peculiar habit of his, and has been the subject of more discussion, and

ject of more discussion and dispute than almost anything else except the merits of dogs. The "booming" of the prairie chicken dogs. The "booming" of the prairie chicken or pinnated grouse is acknowledged to be produced from the bird's throat, but how the "partridge" does his "drumming" is a mooted question. But he does "drum," and the resonant woodland roll of the tattoo is one of the striking sounds of nature, as are the sonorous notes of the bullfrogs, the basso profundo of the justly celebrated "thunder pumper" and the never-t gotten moan of the "kill-a-loo bird.

The hills were brown, the heavens were blue;
A woodpecker pounded a pine top shell.
While a partridge whistled the whole day through
For a rabbit to dance in the chaparral;
And a gray grouse drummed: "All's well! All's
well!"

Like the quail, the ruffed grouse is susceptible to deceit, and he is trapped and enared in the eastern and northern states particularly in great numbers by the farmer boys and by the market hunters. He is especially foolish about snares, and puts his head into them with a fatuous confidence that is rapidly thinning out his numbers, even where he was once numer-ous. Only the most rigid application of a non-selling game law will effect any ade quate improvement in the situation. When the deep snows come he is sufficiently hard pushed to take almost any chance to get food, and box traps and "figure fours" take him in out of the inclement weather 'nto the hospitable frying pan with dismal fre-quency. Yet, like all the grouse family nearly, he shows great cunning when wing-tipped, and he is sagacious enough when unted. But the traps and the spares are the woods he must have better protection. The present law is a good one for him, and if the game wardens would restock a little

with Pennsylvania or Michigan birds it would help matters along.

Hunting the ruffed grouse requires about the same paraphernalia as ordinary quall shooting, except that No. 6 shot, instead of 9's or 8's should be used. A twelve-gauge gun is heavy enough, and a good dog of either pointer or setter blood will: nawer. The setter in ragged cover will stand the going better, and in most ruffed grouse cover there will be water enough, so that a setter can get a drink occasionally.

MARYLAND CAMPAIGN ON A BRITISH WARSHIP THE WAYS OF PARTRIDGES DIFFICULT IDIOMS

Boer Language Abounds in Puzzling Words and Phrases.

SOME OF THE MORE PERPLEXING ONES

Terms That Will Be Found in Reports of the War.

CORRECT PRONUNCIATION

News readers always suffer inconvenience when the reports from abroad contain unfamiliar words and expressions idiomatic to the locality from which they may have been written. The occurrence of such "uitlandsche" terms will be frequent in the dispatches which will record the strife between England and her stubborn neighbors n South Africa, for that country has a patois all its own.

We therefore propose to furnish our readers with a glossary, simply illustrating the terms which are most likely to find their way into the war correspondents' ink horns from the dust of the dry African "veldt." And this (the comprehensive term for all open country there, and not merely "the plains") will do to start with. Dealing as we are with "de Afrikaansche taal," and not with what the "Boers" (meaning farmers and nothing more) call "pront hoilaus"-correct European Dutch-we proper y spell this word with a final "t," because phonetically the word is in Africa "felt," even though the books spell it "veld." Some people mistakenly connect with the above word the term "velschoens," and spell this, which stands for the farmer-

made skin shoes—which are only one de-gree removed from our moccasins—with an added "dt," under the impression that the added "dt," under the impression that the word means shoes for the veldt.

A word as to pronunciation. As remarked, the "Boer taal" is not the "Nederlansche" of today, but a patois, the body of which consists of archaic Dutch of the seventeenth century, eked out by adaptations from French. Spanish, Malay, and some native words. The vowel sounds are as in French or the Latin in schools. But in many instances the "a" is "ah," so long drawn out that it ought properly be written "aa" to express the drawl which a Boer always uses in that word. This also appears in the word "kweaie," immortalized by Uncle Powl when he described the great queen as "eene when he described the great queen as "eene kweaie vrouw." Pundits in three continents ran their heads against the phrasemostly in vain—for it was used as a term of respectful away. of respectful awe. In its archaic, and therefore Krugerian, sense it is the explicit equivalent of "dread lady."

Two Important Consonants.

Of the consonants only two need be mentioned-"k" and "g." The first, when a terminal, has the sound of "ck," and we often therefore so spell it. The "g" is a guttural so vibrant as to have no representative equivalent in English lettering-even "ch" (Scotch) in "loch" hardly reaches it, as uttered by a plainsman; "kh," deep in the throat, might convey the idea. The proper name "George," as used by them, has precisely the sound of a violent effort to remove a bit of tough phlegm from one's throat. "Uit" is one of the most puzzling sylla-

bles for the Anglo-Saxon reader to master; a favorite pronunciation is "weet." Its sound in a Transvaaler's mouth is exactly in English a guillanders sound in a Transvaaler's mouth is exactly as we say "8" in English, e. g., uitlanders, "eight-landers." Even in South Africa itself the Saxon tongue boggles at this "uit," and for "spruit," a brook or streamlet, most of them say "sproot;" nevertheless, the Boers always pronounce it "spr-8."

Some physical features of landscape likely to be presented to their readers by the some physical features of landscape likely to be presented to their readers by the news writers in "taal" words are shown in the following commentary: "Rand." any long, rolling hill; range is a rand; more specifically the greacy vides that of such specifically the grassy ridge itself of such a formation. Gats rand and Witwater's rand are illustrations. "Kopje"-pronounced koppe—designates isolated hills. pointed tops. A "kop" is larger; it must be an isolated mountain peak to attain the be an isolated mountain peak to attain the dignity of kop. To be a "spitzkop" the peak must be high, sharp and craggy. "Berg" or "bergen" signify extensive mountain ranges, as the Mahaliesbergen, the Drakensberg and the Werzaamelbergen.

"Nek" and Its Meaning.

To descend to the lower features of the landscape-say, from the top of Majuba "kop"-we come down the grassy, rockstrewn "hoogte," or braeside, and find ourselves in Laing's Nek. "Nek" means the rounded hollow of the dip between any two peaks of a mountain chain. But do not make the error of confounding the "nek" with the "pass." Laing's Nek is a pass, because the road goes over it, but there are "neks" which are not

because the road goes over it, but there are "neks" which are rot passes.

If, however, we were upon a mountain which offered us no easy "hoogte" to descend by, we should have to scramble down some narrow and rugged "kloof." A kloof is precisely what in America we call a canyon, and as with the word canyon, so also the word kloof may with equal propriety be applied to a deep narrow cut in a priety be applied to a deep narrow cut in a plain, or a level, narrow pass and loses its plain, or a level, narrow pass and plain, or a level, narrow pass and identity. As "New Year's vley" (a strong stream), "Van Wyck's vley," and others. indeed, Lienberg's view runs for more than hundred miles under that appellation fore its identity is lost by joining the Wilge There are "vleys" on the plains, more or less true marshes, having no also, more or less true marshes, having no outflow. A "pan" again differs from a vley in that, though also a depression in the plain, catching the drainage of an area, but having no outflow—it must have a hard

bottom.

A "laagte" again is different, and is one of the distinctive formations of South Africa, due to the clear-cut distinction between the dry and wet seasons. A laagte is properly a wide and comparatively shallow depression, dropping suddenly from the prevailing country level. It is usually full of pitfalls, and woe betide the foreign general who shall try to push cavalry or big guns across in the face of "farmers" occupying the opposite "bult." The bottom land is, when dry, a well-grassed turf of rich mold, no one can say how deep—often two miles no one can say how deep—often two miles or more wide, and running twenty to thirty miles—mostly level as a billiard board, but with a gentle tilt sufficient to let the water run. Elandslaagte is a good example. These flat bottoms are dotted all over with deep water-pits ("cyfer-gaten"), often almost hidden from the incautious horseman by the long grass; these swarm with fish, although they contest with the contest of the long grass; these swarm with fish, although they are totally disconnected from each other, and may be miles from any river. During the wet season, however, the floor of a laagte will become a gently flowing sheet of shallow rain water, and through this medium the fish of the river, with which the laagte finally connects, will slither along over the grass to and from these curious cyfer-gaten.

The South African Ox Wagon. The appointments of the great South African ox wagon are sure to be referred to. Of these, the great freighters (the "bok-

wagen") run to as much as twenty feet

long by seventeen between the wheels, and long by seventeen between the wheels, and are drawn by fourteen, sixteen or eighteen bullocks, "spanned" in pairs.

"Inspanning" and "outspanning" are the acts of hitching up and loosing these animals from the yoke. Each ox is harnessed thus: After the span have been "reimed" and ranged along the "touw," the end of a yoke is laid upon the animal's neck, and as there are two stout placed of wood as there are two stout placed of wood. a yoke is laid upon the animal's neck, and as there are two stout pieces of wood thrust through holes in the end of the yoke these clip his neck in a fork. They are the "yokeskeys." A short twisted coupler of rawhide (called the "strop") connects up the under ends of the "keys," and then it is a clever beast who can wriggle out of that simple device. The "reims" with which the oxen have been caught are around their horns, and as each pair are around their norms, and as each pair are
"yoked" the operator seizes their two reims
and, allowing a play of about three feet
to the right-hand ox, lays up the slack,
criss-cross, around the horms of the other;
and there you have the entire harness of
the "treck-oss." These "reims" are inchwide strips of rawhide slightly softened by
twisting, and run from seven to ten feet twisting, and run from seven to ten feet in length. They are very strong. The "yokes" are fastened along a care-

The "yokes" are fastened along a carefully laid-up cable of rawhide strands, which is called the "treck-touw"—we beg to repeat that the sound of this word warrants the "ck" instead of the conventional "k"—but sometimes. al "k"-but sometimes a European-made chain is used instead of the native touw,

"Hechts' Greater Stores." The superiority of Hechts' styles

in outer wear is now known by everybody. The very material savings we are making you are the talk of the town

With all these advantages-lower prices, better varieties-more exclusive styles-and the privilege of paying for them as you can-do you wonder that Hechts' is the most patronized suit department in this city? Hechts' must lead-and they do. Not to lead wouldn't be Hechts'.

Two lots sample tailor-made suits less than half price.

Did you take advantage of that offering of suits last week? The immense success of it encouraged us to further purchasing, and the result, two lots of "sample" suits from a leading New York maker were put on sale today. It is an immense lot, and they are the greatest values ever offered the people of this city.

\$9.98 for suits worth up to \$25 each.

Ladies' tailor-made suits, embracing the highest grades of Venetians, herringbone worsteds, and fly-front and box-front styles. Most of the jackets are lined with the finest quality of taffets silk in

workmanship and finish and does credit to their \$9.98 for the choice-and they are actual \$20 to



Sworth up to

We are out of competition in skirt-selling

-because we are makers, and you can readily see that we have big advantage over other houses, who buy from makers. One profit only on our prices, and the smallest at that. But aside from that-we make up better skirts than are usually offered. It is costing us considerable more to do it, but we are making friends-patrons. We are using "S. H. & M." velveteen binding-and "Nubian" fast black lining, and you know these give life as well as fit to a garment.

99c. for good black figured brilliantine skirts—made up far better than cheap skirts usually are made—lined better and bound better—fuller in width—more perfect and more fashlonable in mere fashlonable fit. \$1.98 values.

\$2.49 111

ported cheviot serge skirts, crepon skirts and gray homespuns, which are sold for \$4 \$3.98 for handsome black crepon skirts full width-the new effect - linings and bindings in them that will wear satisfactor-ily—a much better skirt than is usually offered even at \$5.

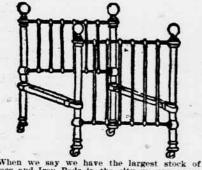
\$8.98 1000 crepon skirts, such as ell in every store in town for \$12 and more-very perfection in fit and fullness

\$10 for ladies braided and plain taffeta silk separate skirtsstylish this season and which are selling for \$15 and more

Hecht and Company,

It's an Imperative Economy Call That Brings You Here This Week.

Winter emphasizes the necessity of complete homefurnishing. It has come to that stage now when claims are almost converted into stringent demands. Some of you may have waited in anticipation of securing better values—the reward is in today's bulletin of affers. Possibly lack of ready cash has been the fault of other shoppers holding off. Our liberal credit system bridges over that difficulty. Always at your disposal and arranged to suit your own convenience in the paying of the bill. Quality is here to prove these extraordinary prices:



There's plenty of comfort in these Handsome Full-tufted Velour COUCHES, fringed, with full spring. Cash \$7.50 or Credit

\$26.50 is a small sum indeed for such a Parlor Suite; \$35 would be underselling such furniture. A PARLOR SUITE handsomely finished in mahogan, skilifully carved and covered in rich \$26.50

Parlor Table, substantially built, best golden oak finish, with under shelf and 24x24-luch top. Buy quick. Cash



or Credit. A High-back, Finely Carved Onk Dining Chair, with braced arms and cane seat. Worth \$1.50. Cash or SOC.

Instance: A Quartered Oak.

Box-seat Dining Chair, Cash

A Large, Handsome Bed Room Suite, carved ak, with a fine dresser and washstand, complete, with large French-plate mirror. Cash or \$35.00

Carpets, 85c. yd.

A Good Quality of Velvet Carpet, in an accellent choice of patterns. A well-wearing arpet at a price without a precedent. Don't list this. alsa this. Large Size Fringe Rugs, 79c. Ingrain Carpets, 25c. up. Heavy Brussels Carpets, 65c. a yard. Ingrain Art Squares, \$2.98.



For a small outlay you can purchase a magnificent Golden Oak SHDEBOARD with swell front and large French-plate mirror. Cash or \$21.75

Lace Curtains.

\$1 LACE CURTAINS.
(A pretty pair indeed.)
\$1.50 LACE CURTAINS (pair).
(Very heavy and extra width.)
BEAUTIFUL TAPESTRY PORTIERES. \$2.48

(Extra width and quality)
75c. TAPESTRY TABLE COVERS.... TIT, 415-417 Seventh St.

MAYER

and then the Boer will speak of it as his let Boston note

Pronunciation of "Kruger." Each pair of oxen are given a clear nine

feet of touw; and as the "dissel-boom" (wagon pole) of stout "ironwood," or "as "wild pear," or "sneeze wood," is twelve feet, the string, in front of en or twelve feet, the string, in front of a first-class "bok-wa," streams out at least eighty feet from where the driver sits upor whip, consisting of a bamboo "stock" teen feet long, carrying a hide thong and biting "voor-slag" some twenty-five to thirty feet more. The best thongs are of camelopard hide. In front of all this snakelike outfit walks the "voor-looper," eading the front pair by their reims which he has so hitched in a loop that he can hold it and wa'k before them out of horns' reach. Then, "Hawt-yeh!" yells the driver, with a smack of his whip as loud as a rifle-shot, and the great freighter be-

one more word: Should an exceptionally heavy piece of road develop, or an ox prove more than usually recalcitrant, the "Achteross-sjambok" (shambok) is pulled out. This is a strip of rhinoceros or hippopotamus hide an inch to one and a half inch square in its native condition, but roughly tapere for flagellatory purposes, and from four to six feet in length. The very sight of this implement puts much power into backbones of every well-trained and telligent bullock, for a strong hand can lay open his ribs with it, be his hide never so thick and case-hardened. Kruger is pronounced "Kroor" mostly in the Transvaal, but "Kreer" generally

Collateral for Car Fare. From the Chicago News.

An amusing incident happened on ar Indiana avenue street car recently. The car was going south; attached to the Cottage Grove cable. At Van Buren street a she carried a large market basket that ap-parently was filled with "bargain" purparently was filled with "bargain" pur-chases from some department store. Three minutes after she had sat down and decosted the basket between her feet on the loor the conductor came along with the isual cry. "Fare, please!"

The old lady opened her purse and began rummaging through its various pockets for a nickel. Again and again she went hrough it, but no change was to be "I was sure I had saved car fare, but cannot find it. I live at the end of your line, and will pay you then." "That won't do; must have your fare

"Well, give me something the value of nickel and you can redeem it at the end of the line."
The old lady hesitated a moment, ther put her hand down into the basket and drew out a bar of laundry soap and handed to him.

Everybody in the car laughed, but the conductor took the soap and rang up the

Well, I haven't the money.

THE RETIRED BURGLAR. An Experience That Was Unpleasant, to Say the Least of It.

the New York Sun. "At one time and another," said the retired burglar, "I have run into a good many traps, some that meant business, more of 'em just fool traps; that might make a man a good deal of bother perhaps, but didn't do anybody any hurt. I told you once about a trap I stepped into that was made with a couple of timbers rigged to work like the jaws of a steel trap. That was business. You remember? I broke my leg in that trap, at 2 o'clock in the morning and had to drag it to a railroad train-with a pal to lean on, that trip, most fortunately-and ride to the city. and wait till 7 o'clock before I got it set.

That certainly was a business trap; and about as far opposite to it as you could possibly get, was one that I encountered very soon after I got out after my leg "I came to a door, opening off an upstairs hall, which was closed, and which opened easily and naturally for six or eight inches and then stopped as though it had run softly onto a tapering wedge some-where. I was holding onto this door with my left hand to steady it and pushing with my right, and when it ran up against that thing that stopped it, whatever it was, I didn't try to push right ahead through the side of the house, but I stopped. Then I started it again and found I could work it a little farther without much trouble, and then I took hold of it, carefully and firmly with both hands and worked it a quarter or half an inch at a time further and further open, the door binding a little all the time but still yielding to pressure and going gradually till all of a sudden it cleared the obstruction entirely and went swinging open the rest of the way freely, and down on me, covering me from head to

foot, and front and back came a shower of

so that they would tip down and empty their contents on whoever came through when the door had been opened just so far, two twenty-four-pound bags of flour. The man coming through was sure to be coming slow, and so, sure to be under it long enough to get wall the flour and he long enough to get all the flour, and he couldn't help being covered with it. What couldn't help being covered with it. What under the canopy ever possessed a man to fix up a trap like that I can't even guess; but of all the foul freaks I ever encountered, that was the worst, and it made me mad. It hadn't done me a bit of hurt, just made me feel foolish, that's all, and mad; and I thought I'd just go ahead about the house just as I was and finish up the work, trailing flour all over wherever I went, just to spite him. But then I realized that my very last crowding on the door, when I to spite him. But then I realized that my very last crowding on the door, when I had finally pushed it clear and over the obstruction, I had pushed it over against the wall. It may easily happen that a thing you work over with the greatest care gets away from you finally, and that's what this had done, and made some little noise; not much, but enough to wake somebody up, if in fact the somebody hadn't been awake all the time I was pushing on the awake all the time I was pushing on the door. As I stood there for a moment listen-ing before starting out, and meditating that trail of flour over the carpets, I heard somebody moving in the next room, and that made a change in the situation right away; thought I'd get out, and that's what

"I had on a cheviot suit, rough, woolly suit, and that flour stuck to it amazingly; I just couldn't shake it off; I was white with it all over, and I started for home, feeling about as foolish as I ever felt in my life. I was living then in a small city and making trips around to small towns villages in the neighborhood. This h where I'd got the nour was in a little place about three miles out, and I started to walk home. It was a cloudy night, but there was a moon behind the clouds, and it wasn't so very dark; you could see

around pretty well. "Coming along a crossroad toward the ona I was traveling, I saw a village policeman, walking with his head down, swinging his club, thinking of something. This was bad; I hado't formed on hadn't figured on meeting him, but before I could cipher out what to do, at the in-stant I saw him, in fact, he raised his head and looked at me. I was standing up very straight and moving very slow, just keep-ing an eye on him to see what he'd do, and thinking of what I'd do myself, when he turns and runs like all possessed back over the road he'd been coming on, as fast as he could lick it. He'd taken me for a

was the first laugh I'd had out of the flour, and I wouldn't have believed there was any laugh in it at all; but it only goes to show you that there's absolutely no fix a man can get into without some fun in it if a man's only got an eye to see it and on feeling more cheerful.

on feeling more cheerful.

"About a mile from home it began to sprinkle, and pretty soon it came on to rain quite hard. Didn't mind that. I wasn't made of sugar, and I'd been out in rains before. But I never'd been out in a rain before covered with flour, as I begun to realize in about two minutes. to realize in about two minutes. That all over me turned to paste; greasy, slip-pery, sticky paste; and I slipped along home feeling as though I'd been dipped in a paste barrel, and about as mean as I ever

felt in my life.
"The clothes were no good after that." we couldn't clean 'em. We couldn't have got all the paste out without taking all the cloth with it, and we got off the thick of it and then threw the clothes away. So you see, I was out a night's time and a sult of clothes by that freak, and take it altogether, it was about as miserable an experience as I ever had. A man don't have to have his leg broke to make him uncomfortable."

The White Man's Burden. From the Chicago News.

Smith-"My congratulations, old man. I near you have another increase in your family. Son or daughter?"

Jones (sadly)—"Worse; a son-in-law.